

MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS

INTERN PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

EMPLOYER: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

CONTACT PERSON'S NAME/TITLE: Torrey Ritter/Nongame Wildlife Biologist

ADDRESS: 3201 Spurgin Road

CITY: Missoula

STATE: MT

ZIP: 59804

PHONE: 406-542-5551

EMAIL ADDRESS: torrey.ritter@mt.gov

DATE OF ANNOUNCEMENT: Friday, January 4, 2019

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday, March 1, 2019 at 5:00 PM (postmarked)

****STUDENTS MUST BE CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN A UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE****

POSITION TITLE: Nongame Wildlife Intern

OF POSITIONS: 1

LOCATION(S): Missoula, MT

WORK START/END DATES: Approximately May 14th – August 10th

HOURS/WEEK: 40

TRAINING/ORIENTATION DATES: Training in late April or early May, to be determined.

COMPENSATION (PAY, PER DIEM, HOUSING, VEHICLE, ETC):

\$11.00/hr plus per diem at state rates when in the field. No housing is provided in Missoula. Housing is usually available at the Blackfoot-Clearwater WMA for the duration of the position. There is no overtime for this position, paid holidays, or additional compensation for working on holidays or weekends. A state vehicle will likely be available. Individuals may need to use personal vehicle for part of all of summer if state/federal vehicle not available. Interns would be compensated for mileage at current state rates. Duration of the job depends on funding, usually 12-13 weeks.

POSITION DESCRIPTION:

Interns will work with the Regional MFWP wildlife biologist to conduct all aspects of the Regional non-game program. The intern will assist with monitoring a variety of wildlife species including common loon, bald eagle, golden eagle, black swift, northern bog lemming, and various other species of concern. The intern may also help with surveys for bats, beavers, reptiles, amphibians, owls, and Idaho pocket gophers. Loon monitoring and management activities comprise an important part of the duties during May and June. In coordination with local biologists, interns conduct common loon surveys, deploy and collect floating signs, monitor loons for leg bands, keep daily log of activities, and give campground or other presentations if requested.

The intern prepares a final loon nesting summary report at the end of the summer, and presents their findings at the Montana Loon Working Group summer meeting in late July. Interns assist in the entry of the loon data into the statewide loon database, and other species observations into other databases as appropriate. The intern may sometimes assist other wildlife biologists with their work as needed.

Survey and monitoring methods employed during this internship may include part or all of the following: nest monitoring, careful observations to read leg bands, trail camera deployment, small mammal trapping, bat acoustic surveys, call-back surveys for birds, and collection of genetic samples (scat or hair).

This work requires the ability to work alone/independently at times, and work with other biologists or interns. This position requires weekend and night work and may include strenuous off-trail hiking for some surveys. Hiking at night may also be required for surveys conducted outside of grizzly bear country. This position requires the use of small non-motorized boats, such as a kayak or solo canoe. This position requires a strong awareness and knowledge about safely working in grizzly bear country.

SKILLS, ABILITIES, KNOWLEDGE NEEDED (EDUCATION; UNDERGRAD/GRAD LEVEL, SUGGESTED/REQUIRED MAJORS):

Good communication skills, ability to work independently; 1-2 years in biology, wildlife biology, ornithology, fisheries, or resource management; ability to use 4-wheel drive vehicles (may be stick shift) and non-motorized boats (canoes or kayaks) to access lakes. Able to carry 35-50 lbs and hike up to 5-15 miles in a day. Applicant should be able to use high-powered spotting scopes (provided) to identify birds and color band combinations. Interns will need to provide their own hip boots or waders. Interns should have a cell phone available for use, as there is no phone service at the BCWMA bunkhouse. Interns will need to keep in close contact with multiple agencies and organizations or individuals depending on their location and assignments. **Interns from out-of-state may be required to obtain a Montana drivers license after 90 days.**

APPLICATION MATERIALS/PROCEDURES (RESUME, COVER LETTER, REFERENCES, ETC.):

Submit 1 digital copy of current **resume** identifying experience and skills related to the intern position description with list of 3 reference contacts. Please provide a **list of all relevant classes** (biology, wildlife, recreation, resource management, botany, etc.) you have completed as part of your resume (official transcripts are not necessary). Also provide a **cover letter** explaining the **reasons for your interest** in the internship, availability of a personal vehicle that you may have for use if needed, and why you are qualified to do the work.

Send above materials to:

Torrey Ritter

Email: torrey.ritter@mt.gov

Address: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 5201 Spurgin Road, Missoula, MT 59804

Applications must be received no later than 5:00 pm on March 1, 2019

Selections are generally made within 2-3 weeks of closing date. **Please email your application if possible.**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: (;HOUSING OF ANY KIND PROVIDED OR POSSIBLY AVAILABLE I.E. TRAILER, FREE CAMP SPOT, BASEMENT APARTMENT, EXTRA SLEEPING ROOM, ETC.)

No housing is provided in Missoula. Space is usually available in an FWP bunkhouse near Ovando for field work in the Blackfoot-Clearwater areas. Travel to other parts of the region may involve camping.